



Online Safety for Schools



Online Safety Tips for Popular Platforms

Fortnite

- Lock down voice and chat
- Be cautious of in-game friendships
- Watch spending and scams

Roblox

- Use parental controls and age settings
- Do not move conversations off platform
- Look out for inappropriate games or roleplay

Minecraft

- Only allow trusted servers
- Disable chat for younger players
- Beware of mods and downloads

Instagram

- Set accounts to private
- Discuss photo-sharing and digital footprint
- Watch for grooming via DMs

Snapchat

- Disable Snap Map location sharing
- Snaps are not truly disappearing
- Be alert to streak pressure

TikTok

- Manage the algorithm
- Private account + restricted messaging
- Talk about dangerous trends

Discord

- Limit server access
- Turn off direct messages from non-friends
- Watch for grooming and extremist spaces

Twitch

- Monitor livestream chats
- Don't allow private messaging
- Explain donation and scam risks

Steam

- Use Family View and spending limits
- Be cautious with friend requests
- Watch community discussions

WhatsApp

- Check group chat safety
- Turn on privacy settings
- Discuss image-sharing and bullying

Metaverse

- Treat it like the real world
- Use boundaries and personal space tools
- Supervision is essential

VR Chat

- Discourage use for under-13s
- Leave immediately if uncomfortable
- Disable voice chat with strangers

Horizon Worlds

- Use Meta parental supervision tools
- Explain avatar-based harassment risks
- Encourage block, report, leave

Call of Duty

- Turn off lobby voice chat
- Check age ratings
- Discuss peer pressure and aggression

GTA Online

- Not appropriate for children
- Online exposes players to adults
- Parents should set firm boundaries

What Parents Should Ask Their Child Tonight

- What games or apps are you using most right now?
- Who do you talk to online? Do you know them in real life?
- Have you seen anything online recently that made you uncomfortable?
- Do you know how to block or report someone?
- Has anyone ever asked you to keep a secret online?
- Do you feel pressured to reply quickly or share things you don't want to?
- Can we check your privacy and safety settings together?

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